

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the Office Action of June 19, 2006, for the opportunity to conduct a personal interview on October 23, 2006, to discuss the application, and for his further assistance in the preparation of the amended claim language. During the interview and thereafter the Examiner recommended possible claim language in order to advance this application to issuance.

This request for continued examination is intended to be fully responsive to the Office Action of June 19, 2006 and to the Examiner's oral comments. All previous claims are cancelled and new claims are included to clarify the invention and also to comply with the Examiner's suggestions. No new matter has been added.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 14-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,427,830 to Pharo. However, due to the currently amended claim language the rejection is now moot.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Pharo. However, due to the currently amended claim language the rejection is now moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that each of new claims 21 through 24 recites statutory subject matter that is novel and new, is subject

matter of the present invention and is fully supported in the disclosure of the present invention, and therefore respectfully requests that claims 21 through 24 be found allowable and that this application be passed to issue. No new matter has been included.

If for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper has not been timely filed, the Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 50-2069, **referencing docket number 06.49.11.USP.**

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Tracy M Heims/
Tracy M. Heims
Reg. No. 53,010

Apex Juris, pllc
12360 Lake City Way Northeast, Suite 410
Seattle, Washington, 98125
Phone (206)664-0314
Fax (206)664-0329